



State of Utah

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Department of Environmental Quality

William J. Sinclair
Acting Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Walter L. Baker, P.E.
Director

February 10, 2009

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY PUBLIC NOTICE OF REISSUANCE OF A UPDES PERMIT

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO DECLARE THE STATE OF UTAH'S INTENTION TO REISSUE A UTAH POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (UPDES) PERMIT UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE UTAH WATER QUALITY ACT, SECTION 19-5-104 AND 107, UTAH CODE ANNOTATED 1953, AS AMENDED. SAID "PERMIT" REFERS TO UPDES PERMIT AND THE STATEMENT OF BASIS (INCLUDING THE TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS (TMDL'S)) IF APPLICABLE, AS PER SECTION 303 (d) OF THE FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA).

PERMIT INFORMATION

PERMITTEE NAME:	Western Energy Operating, LLC-Ashley Valley Facility
MAILING ADDRESS:	439 North Conwell Street, Casper, WY 82601
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	(307) 472-0720
FACILITY LOCATION:	Uintah County near Jensen, UT
UPDES PERMIT NO.:	UT0000035
OUTFALLS:	001
RECEIVING WATERS:	Big Wash and the Union Irrigation Canal, and the Green River

BACKGROUND

Western Energy Operating, LLC (WEO) – Ashley Valley Facility is one of three WEO oil production facilities in Utah that were originally constructed in the 1970's. Under normal operations the facility continuously discharges effluent, which is basically groundwater produced from the oil extraction activities pumped from nearby oil wells. The WEO-Ashley Valley Facility is not currently in operation as there has been no discharge or production since July 2008. WEO has no immediate plans to reactivate the facility and has applied for a permit renewal in case they need to decant the ponds during any future reclamation activities.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments are invited any time prior to close of business on March 20, 2009. Comments may be directed to the Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality, 288 North 1460 West, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The permit is available for public review under "Public Notices" at www.waterquality.utah.gov/. If internet access is not available, a copy may be obtained by calling Jeff Studenka at 801-538-6779. Written public comments can be submitted to: Walt Baker, Executive Secretary, Utah Water Quality Board, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870 or by email at: wbaker@utah.gov. The deadline to receive comments is close of business March 20, 2009. After considering public comment the Utah Water Quality Board may execute the permit renewal, revise it, or abandon it.